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DEMANDE DE BREVET D'INVENTION

A1

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④3 Date de la mise à disposition du public de la
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recherche préliminaire : *Se reporter à la fin du
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⑥0 Références à d'autres documents nationaux
apparentés :

⑦1 Demandeur(s) : CAHLIK MARC ANDRE — FR.

⑦2 Inventeur(s) :

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⑦4 Mandataire : CAHLIK MARC ANDRE.

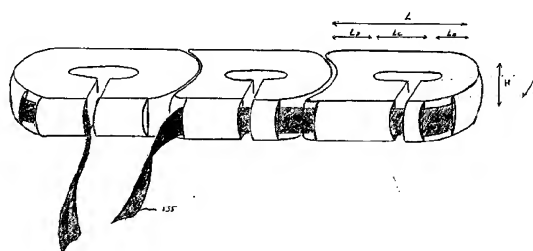
⑤4 IMPLANT CHIRURGICAL INTERVETEBRAL POUR STABILISATION ET LIMITATION DES MOUVEMENTS RELATIFS DES VERTEBRES.

⑤7 L'invention concerne un implant chirurgical qui conformément aux du chirurgien, est destiné à maintenir un espace intervertébral, à en limiter le débattement lors des mouvements de flexion-extension, et à en contrôler la stabilité rotatoire.

L'invention consiste en une bague profilée, dimensionnée et ouverte sur l'un de ses côtes, pour pouvoir être introduite et positionnée autour d'une apophyse épineuse.

Avantageusement, la bague présente une extrémité convexe et l'autre concave, de manière à pouvoir lors d'un montage sur plusieurs épineuses successives, bénéficier d'un emboîtement et d'une cohérence mécanique de l'ensemble. Les extrémités de la bague peuvent être dans des cas spécifiques concave/concave, convexe/convexe. Les parties longitudinales de la bague, hormis le fait qu'une d'entre elles est ouverte, sont pourvues de passants autorisant la mise en place d'un système de maintien et de retenue, ainsi que d'un système de renforcement et rigidification, respectivement en exemple, un ligament artificiel et une lame de polyéthylène ou TA6V.

Cette prothèse permet de supprimer les affections douloureuses des nerfs rachidiens (ex : sciatique) et l'instabilité rotatoire sagittale et frontale vertébrale.



FR 2 722 087 - A1



IMPLANT CHIRURGICAL INTERVERTEBRAL POUR STABILISATION ET LIMITATION DES MOUVEMENTS RELATIFS DES VERTEBRES .

L'INVENTION CONCERNE UN IMPLANT CHIRURGICAL QUI CONFORMEMENT AUX DU CHIRURGIEN , EST DESTINE A MAINTENIR UN ESPACE INTERVERTEBRAL , A EN LIMITER LE DEBATTEMENT LORS DES MOUVEMENTS DE FLEXION-EXTENSION, ET A EN CONTROLER LA STABILITE ROTATOIRE .

L'INVENTION CONSISTE EN UNE BAGUE PROFILEE , DIMENSIONNEE ET OUVERTE SUR L'UN DE SES COTES , POUR POUVOIR ETRE INTRODUITE ET POSITIONNEE AUTOUR D'UNE APOPHYSE EPINEUSE .

AVANTAGEUSEMENT , LA BAGUE PRESENTE UNE EXTREMITÉ CONVEXE ET L'AUTRE CONCAVE , DE MANIERE A POUVOIR , LORS D'UN MONTAGE SUR PLUSIEURS EPINEUSES SUCCESSIVES , BENEFICIER D'UN EMBOITEMENT ET D'UNE COHERENCE MECANIQUE DE L'ENSEMBLE . LES EXTREMITES DE LA BAGUE PEUVBENT ETRE DANS DES CAS SPECIFIQUES CONCAVE / CONCAVE , CONVEXE / CONVEXE . LES PARTIES LONGITUDINALES DE LA BAGUE , ORMIS LE FAIT QU'UNE D'ENTRE ELLES EST OUVERTE , SONT POURVUES DE PASSANTS AUTORISANT LA MISE EN PLACE D'UN SYSTEME DE MAINTIEN ET DE RETENUE , AINSI QUE D'UN SYSTEME DE RENFORCEMENT ET RIGIDIFICATION , RESPECTIVEMENT EN EXEMPLE , UN LIGAMENT ARTIFICIEL ET UNE LAME DE POLYETHYLENE OU TA6V .

CETTE PROTHESE PERMET DE SUPPRIMER LES AFFECTIONS DOULOUREUSES DES NERFS RACHIDIENS (EX: SCIATIQUE) ET L'INSTABILITE ROTATOIRE SAGITTALE ET FRONTALE VERTEBRALE .

LA PRESENTE INVENTION CONCERNE UN IMPLANT CHIRURGICAL POUR STABILISATION INTERVERTEBRAL .
 CETTE INVENTION A RAPPORT NOTAMMENT A LA CHIRURGIE ORTHO-PEDIQUE LORS D'AFFECTIONS DU RACHIS , DONT CERTAINES PEUVENT ETRE EXTREMEMENT DOULOUREUSES , EN PARTICULIER LES CANAUX LOMBAIRES ETROITS , LES LYES ISTHIQUES OU LES HERNIES DISCALES , IL EST GENERALEMENT UTILISE UNE PROTHESE INTERVERTEBRALE DONT LA FONCTION EST DE SUPPRIMER L'INSTABILITE ROTATOIRE SAGITTALE ET FRONTALE VERTEBRALE DU RACHIS PATHOLOGIQUE .

ACTUELLEMENT LA CONTENTION INTERVERTEBRALE EST OBTENUE PAR DES SYSTEMES RIGIDES OU SEMI-RIGIDES ET PAR DES SYSTEMES SOUPLES; RESPECTIVEMENT CES MONTAGES SONT EN MATERIAUX TEL QUE L'INOX , LE TA6V , LE CHROME-COBALT ... , ET EN MATERIAUX TEL QUE LE POLY-ETHYLENE , LA FIBRE DACRON (LIG ARTIFICIEL)
 LES PROTHESES ACTUELLES SOIT N'AUTORISENT PLUS LES MOUVEMENTS RELATIFS DES VERTEBRES AVEC DANS CE CAS UNE GENE PENIBLE POUR LE PATIENT ET L'UTILISATION DEVISSERIES OCCASIONNANT DES DEGATS OSSEUX , SOIT NE DONNENT PAS SATISFACTION POUR LE CONTROLE ET LA STABILISATION DE LA FLEXION-EXTENSION , AINSI QUE POUR LA STABILISATION ET LE CONTROLE DE LA ROTATION . D'AUTRE PART LA MISE EN PLACE DES SYSTEMES EXISTANT EST SOUVENT LOURDE , LONGUE , PEU CONTROLABLE ET FASTIDIEUSE .

L'INVENTION VISE A FOURNIR AUX CHIRURGIENS UNE PROTHESE RACHIDIENNE COHERENTE , MODULAIRE , FIABLE ET SIMPLE . CETTE PROTHESE DONT LE MONTAGE QUI EST OBTENU PAR EMBOITEMENT DES BAGUES MISES EN PLACE AUTOUR DES APOPHYSES EPINEUSES CONCERNEES ET SUCCESSIVES , EST MAINTENU EN SYSTEME COHERENT PAR UN MOYEN DE RETENU QUI CEINTURE LES BAGUES . LE MONTAGE PEUT ETRE EGALEMENT RIGIDIFIE PAR L'INTRODUCTION , PAR EXEMPLE , DE LAMES EN MATERIAU PLUS OU MOINS RIGIDE .

LA PROTHESE A POUR BUT DE STABILISER LES VERTEBRES DANS LES TROIS PLANS , ET TOUT EN PRESERVANT L'ANATOMIE , ELLE AUTORISE UNE FOIS EN PLACE CONFORMEMENT AUX CHOIX DU PRATICIEN :

- LE MAINTIEN DE L'ESPACE INTEREPINEUX
- LE CONTROLE ET LA LIMITATION DE LA ROTATION
- LE CONTROLE DU DEBATTEMENT DES EPINEUSES

AINSI SUIVANT L'INVENTION LA PROTHESE CHIRURGICALE EST CONSTITUEE PAR UNE BAGUE (101) POUR EPINEUSE , PROFILEE , DIMENSIONNEE , COMPORTANT UNE CAVITE (110) POUR LOGER UNE APOPHYSE EPINEUSE (120) . LA BAGUE PRESENTE SUR UNE DE SES FACES LATERALES , UNE OUVERTURE (125) AFIN DE POUVOIR L'ENGAGER PAR DEFORMATION ELASTIQUE ET LA POSITIONNER AUTOUR DE LADITE APOPHYSE EPINEUSE (120) .
 LA BAGUE (101) PROFILEE , PRESENTE UNE EXTREMITE CONCAVE (102) ET UNE EXTREMITE CONVEXE (103) DE FACON A POUVOIR , LORS D'UN MONTAGE SUR PLUSIEURS EPINEUSES SUCCESSIVES , DONNER UNE COHERENCE MECANIQUE A L'ENSEMBLE PAR EMBOITEMENT DES BAGUES (SCHEMA 2,3,4) . DANS DES CAS SPECIFIQUES , COMME PAR EXEMPLE LA DERNIERE BAGUE D'UN MONTAGE A TROIS ETAGES (SCHEMA 2,3,4) , LES EXTREMITES D'UNE BAGUE PEUVENT ETRE CONCAVE/CONCAVE OU CONVEXE/CONVEXE (SCHEMA 5) . LES FACES LATERALES DE LA BAGUE SONT MUNIES DE PASSANTS (127) DANS LESQUELS

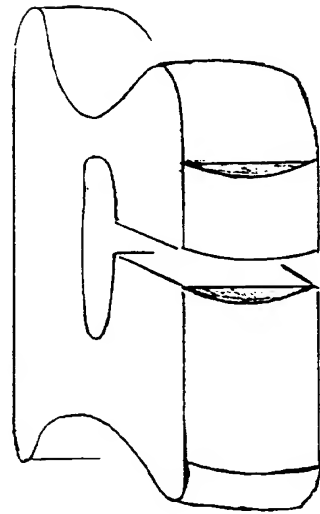
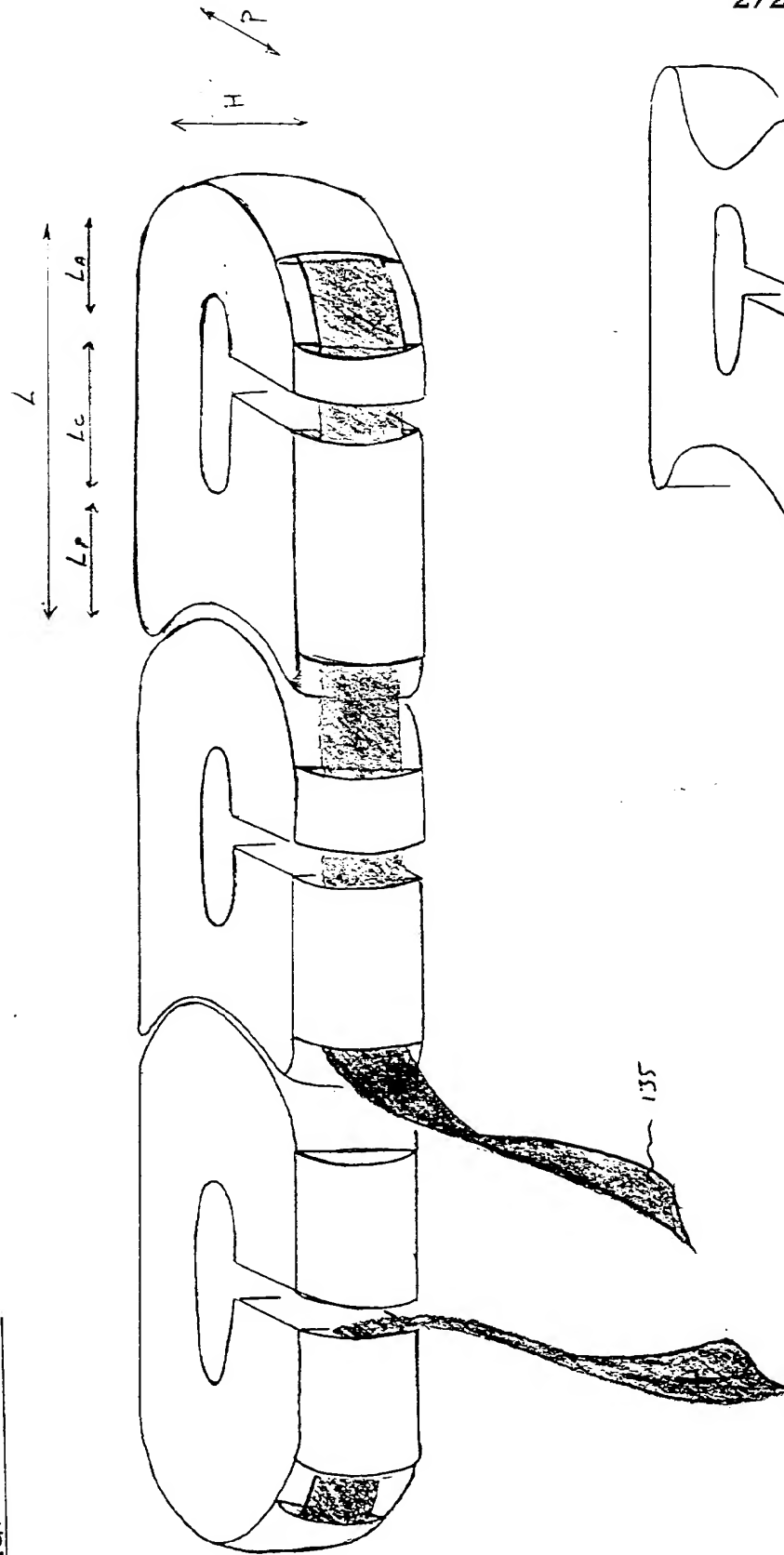
COULISSENT ET LE SYSTEME DE MAINTIEN ET DE RETENUE (135) ET LE SYSTEME DE RENFORCEMENT ET DE RIGIDIFICATION (167) DANS LE CAS OU LE CHIRURGIEN OPTÉ POUR SON UTILISATION . LE MOYEN DE MAINTIEN ET DE RETENUE EST REALISE PAR EXEMPLE , PAR UN LIGAMENT ARTIFICIEL (135) CEINTURANT LE MONTAGE . LA TENSION DU LIGAMENT PERMETTRA D'OBTENIR UNE RIGIDITE PAR COMPRESSION DUDIT MONTAGE . LE MONTAGE POURRA ETRE RENFORCE PAR EXEMPLE , PAR DES LAMES (167) PLUS OU MOINS RESISTANTES DE POLYETHYLENE , DE COBALT-CHROME , DE TA6V LES BAGUES , POUR NE PAS CREER UN CONFLIT AVEC L'OS , SONT DE PREFERENCE EN MATERIAU NON-RIGIDE , DONT ON PEUT FAIRE VARIER LA RESISTANCE , LA DURETE SOIT EN LE CHARGEANT (EX: SILICONE) SOIT EN Y FAISANT DES SURPIQUES (EX: LIGAMENT ARTIFICIEL) . LES DIMENSIONS DES BAGUES PAR LEURS DIVERSITES , DONNENT LA POSSIBILITE AUX CHIRURGIENS DE CHOISIR LA MIEUX ADAPTEE EN FONCTION DES PARAMETRES DIMENSIONNELLES DES DIFFERENTES VERTEBRES DU TRONCON RACHIDIEN A STABILISER . AINSI NOUS POUVONS AVOIR DES BAGUES QUI VARIENT EN HAUTEUR (H) , EN LONGUEUR (L) , EN LONGUEURS RESPECTIVES , LA ,LP ,LC POUR LA LONGUEUR ANTERIEURE , POSTERIEURE , DE LA CAVITE ,ET EN PROFONDEUR (P) .

SUR LA BASE DU PRINCIPE DE LA PRESENTE INVENTION , DIVERS AUTRES MODES DE REALISATION DE CETTE DERNIERE PEUVENT ETRE ENVISAGES . C'EST AINSI QUE NOUS POUVONS AVOIR UNE BAGUE DOUBLE OU ENCORE UNE BAGUE CONVEXE AUX EXTREMITES VENANT EN BUTEE SUR UNE APOPHYSE SUCCEDANT DIRECTEMENT AU MONTAGE (SCHEMA 5) .

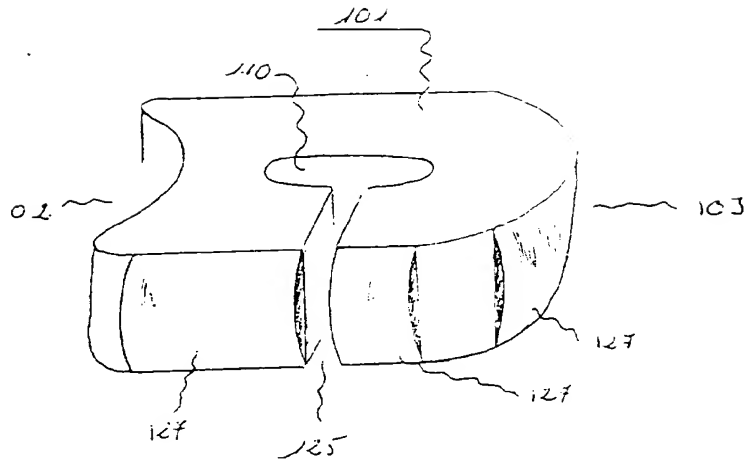
REVENDICATIONS :

- 1 : IMPLANT CHIRURGICAL INTERVERTEBRAL , CARACTERISE EN CE QU' IL COMPORTE UNE BAGUE MUNIE, D' UNE PART , D' UNE CAVITE FORMANT UN LOGEMENT POUR UNE APOPHYSE EPINEUSE ET D' AUTRE PART D' UNE OUVERTURE LATERALE PERMETTANT L' ENGAGEMENT PAR DEFORMATION ELASTIQUE DE LADITE APO-PHYSE EPINEUSE DANS LADITE CAVITE .
- 2 : IMPLANT SELON LA REVENDICATION 1 , CARACTERISE EN CE QUE LADITE BAGUE PRESENTE DEUX EXTREMITES CONCAVES .
- 3 : IMPLANT SELON LA REVENDICATION 1 , CARACTERISE EN CE QUE LADITE BAGUE PRESENTE UNE EXTREMITÉ CONCAVE ET UNE EXTREMITÉ CONVEXE .
- 4 : IMPLANT SELON LA REVENDICATION 1 , CARACTERISE EN CE QUE LADITE BAGUE PRESENTE DEUX EXTREMITES CONVEXES .
- 5 : IMPLANT SELON L' UNE QUELCONQUE DES REVENDICATIONS 1 A 4 , CARACTERISE EN CE QUE LADITE BAGUE PORTE DES PASSANTS LATERAUX POUR LE PASSAGE D' UN MOYEN DE MAINTIEN .
- 6 : IMPLANT SELON LA REVENDICATION 5 , CARACTERISE EN CE QUE LEDIT MOYEN DE MAINTIEN EST UN LIGAMENT SOUPLE .
- 7 : IMPLANT SELON LA REVENDICATION 5 , CARACTERISE EN CE QUE LEDIT MOYEN DE MAINTIEN EST UN MATARIEL DE CERCLAGE .
- 8 : IMPLANT SELON LA REVENDICATION 5 , CARACTERISE EN CE QUE LEDIT MOYEN DE MAINTIEN EST UN LIGAMENT RIGIDIFIE .
- 9 : IMPLANT SELON LA REVENDICATION 5 , CARACTERISE EN CE QUE LEDIT MOYEN DE MAINTIEN EST UNE LAME RIGIDE .
- 10 : IMPLANT SELON LES REVENDICATIONS 1 A 9 , CARACTERISE EN CE QUE LA BAGUE AUTORISE PAR SES PASSANTS PAR UN QUELCONQUE MOYEN LE MAINTIEN ET LA RIGIDIFICATION D' UN MONTAGE COMPORTANT UNE OU PLUSIEURS BAGUES .
- 11 : IMPLANT SELON LES REVENDICATIONS 1 A 10 , CARACTERISE EN CE QUE LES BAGUES S'EMBOIENT ET FORME UN MONTAGE COHERENT .
- 12 : IMPLANT SELON LES REVENDICATIONS 1 A 11 , CARACTERISE EN CE QUE LES BAGUES ET LE MONTAGE PEUVENT ETRE RENFORCES ET RIGIDIFIES PAR MODULARITE D' UN QUELCONQUE MOYEN : LAMES , TIGI CERCLAGE ...

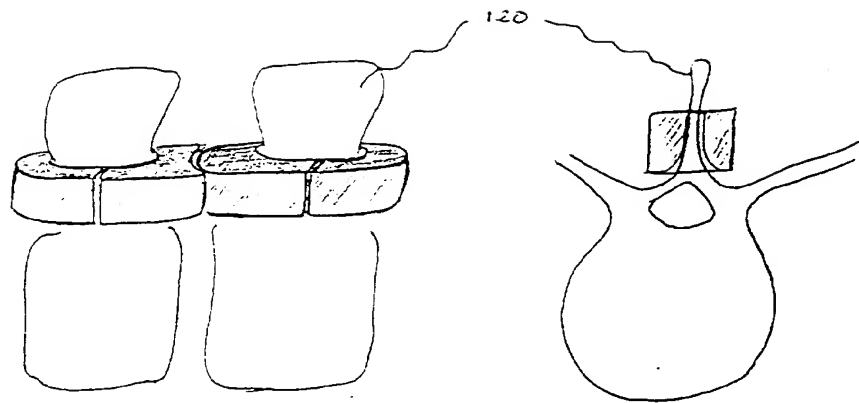
SCHEMA n° 4



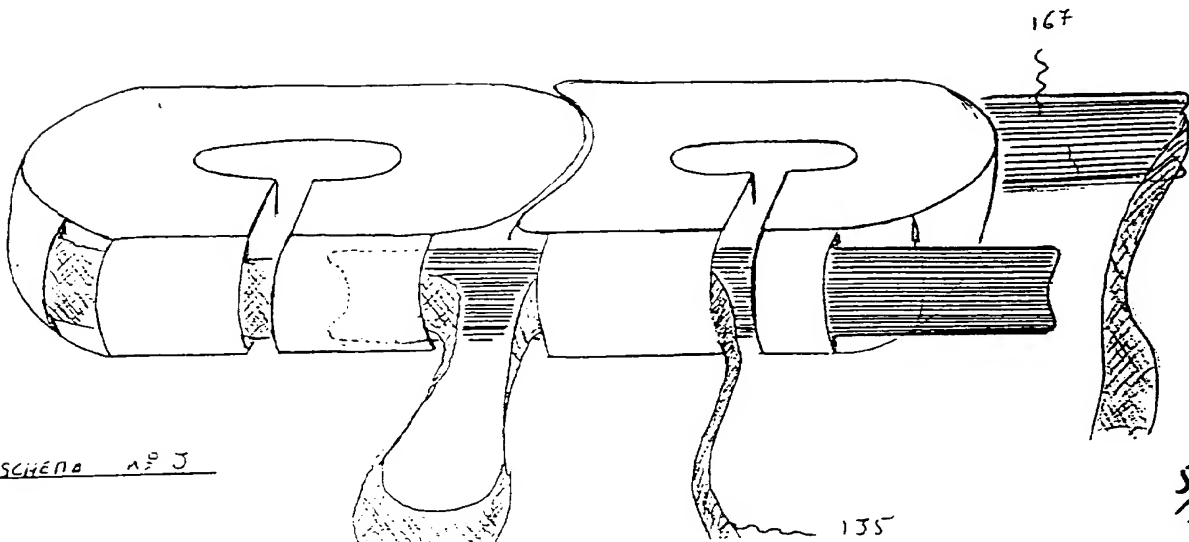
SCHEMA n° 5



SCHEMA n° 1



SCHEMA n° 2



SCHEMA n° 3

[illegible]

Surgical implant for limiting relative movement of vertebrae

Publication number: FR2722087
Publication date: 1996-01-12
Inventor:
Applicant: CAHLIK MARC ANDRE (FR)
Classification:
- international: **A61B17/70; A61B17/70;** (IPC1-7): A61B17/70
- European: A61B17/70P
Application number: FR19940008452 19940708
Priority number(s): FR19940008452 19940708

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Abstract of **FR2722087**

The implant consists of a ring with a cavity shaped to receive a spinal apophysis, and an aperture in the side for engaging with the apophysis. The ring can have two concave ends, two convex ends, or one concave and one convex, and it has slots in the sides for a flexible or rigid support which allows a number of rings to be joined together. The rings are preferably made from a non-rigid material, e.g. silicone, and the supports linking them can be of polyethylene, cobalt-chrome or TA 6 V.

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12

INVENTION PATENT APPLICATION

A1

22 Filing date: 7/8/94

30 Priority:

43 Publication date of the application: 1/12/96
Bulletin 96/02.

56 List of documents cited in the preliminary
search report: *Refer to the end of this
brochure.*

60 References to other related national documents:

71 Applicant(s): CAHLIK MARC ANDRE - FR

72 Inventor(s):

73 Principal(s):

74 Agent: CAHLIK MARC ANDRE.

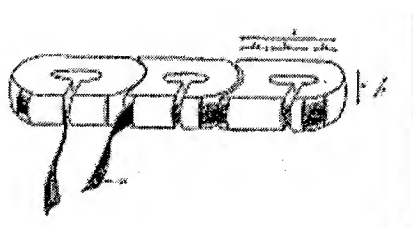
54 INTERVERTEBRAL SURGICAL IMPLANT FOR STABILIZATION AND LIMITATION OF
THE RELATIVE MOVEMENTS OF THE VERTEBRAE.

57 The invention concerns a surgical implant which, according to the of [sic] the surgeon, is designed to maintain an intervertebral space, to limit its displacement in flexion-extension movements, and to control rotatory stability.

The invention consists of a profiled ring, sized and open on one side, in order to be introduced and positioned around a spinous process.

Preferably, the ring presents one convex and one concave end, so as to be able, when assembling it on several successive processes, to benefit from the interlocking and mechanical consistency of the whole. The ends of the ring may be concave/concave or convex/convex in specific cases. The longitudinal parts of the ring, besides the fact that one of them is open, are equipped with basic frames enabling the installation of a maintenance and retaining system, as well as of a reinforcement and rigidification system, respectively, in the example, an artificial ligament and a polyethylene or TA6V blade.

This prosthesis allows eliminating painful conditions of the spinal nerves (ex.: sciatic nerve) and vertebral sagittal and frontal rotatory instability.



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INTERVERTEBRAL SURGICAL IMPLANT FOR STABILIZATION AND LIMITATION OF THE RELATIVE MOVEMENTS OF THE VERTEBRAE.

THE INVENTION CONCERNS A SURGICAL IMPLANT WHICH, ACCORDING TO THE [WORDS MISSING IN ORIGINAL] OF THE SURGEON, IS DESIGNED TO MAINTAIN AN INTERVERTEBRAL SPACE, TO LIMIT ITS DISPLACEMENT IN FLEXION-EXTENSION MOVEMENTS, AND TO CONTROL ROTATORY STABILITY.

THE INVENTION CONSISTS OF A PROFILED RING, SIZED AND OPEN ON ONE SIDE, IN ORDER TO BE INTRODUCED AND POSITIONED AROUND A SPINOUS PROCESS.

PREFERABLY, THE RING PRESENTS ONE CONVEX AND ONE CONCAVE END, SO AS TO BE ABLE, WHEN ASSEMBLING IT ON SEVERAL SUCCESSIVE PROCESSES, TO BENEFIT FROM THE INTERLOCKING AND MECHANICAL CONSISTENCY OF THE WHOLE. THE ENDS OF THE RING MAY BE CONCAVE/CONCAVE OR CONVEX/CONVEX IN SPECIFIC CASES. THE LONGITUDINAL PARTS OF THE RING, BESIDES THE FACT THAT ONE OF THEM IS OPEN, ARE EQUIPPED WITH BASIC FRAMES ENABLING THE INSTALLATION OF A MAINTENANCE AND RETAINING SYSTEM, AS WELL AS OF A REINFORCEMENT AND RIGIDIFICATION SYSTEM, RESPECTIVELY, IN THE EXAMPLE, AN ARTIFICIAL LIGAMENT AND A POLYETHYLENE OR TA6V BLADE.

THIS PROSTHESIS ALLOWS ELIMINATING PAINFUL CONDITIONS OF THE SPINAL NERVES (EX.: SCIATIC NERVE) AND VERTEBRAL SAGITTAL AND FRONTAL ROTATORY INSTABILITY.

THIS INVENTION CONCERNS A SURGICAL IMPLANT FOR INTERVERTEBRAL STABILIZATION.

THIS INVENTION IS RELATED IN PARTICULAR TO ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY IN SPINE DISEASES, SOME OF WHICH MAY BE EXTREMELY PAINFUL, ESPECIALLY NARROW LUMBAR CANALS, ISTHMIC LYSSES OR DISK HERNIAS, GENERALLY USING AN INTERVERTEBRAL PROSTHESIS, WHOSE FUNCTION IS TO ELIMINATE THE VERTEBRAL FRONTAL AND SAGITTAL ROTATORY INSTABILITY OF THE PATHOLOGICAL SPINE.

CURRENTLY, INTERVERTEBRAL CONTAINMENT IS OBTAINED BY RIGID OR SEMI-RIGID SYSTEMS AND BY FLEXIBLE SYSTEMS; RESPECTIVELY, THESE ASSEMBLIES ARE MADE OF MATERIALS SUCH AS STAINLESS STEEL TA6V, CHROMIUM-COBALT..., AND MATERIALS SUCH AS POLYETHYLENE. DACRON FIBER (ARTIFICIAL LIG.)...

CURRENT PROSTHESES EITHER NO LONGER PERMIT THE RELATIVE MOVEMENTS OF THE VERTEBRAE IN WHICH CASE THERE IS AN IMPEDIMENT FOR THE PATIENT AND UTILIZATION OF SCREWS, WHICH CAUSE BONE DAMAGE, OR ARE NOT SATISFACTORY FOR THE CONTROL AND STABILIZATION OF FLEXION-EXTENSION, AS WELL AS FOR THE STABILIZATION AND CONTROL OF ROTATION. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE INSTALLATION OF EXISTING SYSTEMS IS OFTEN HEAVY, TIME-CONSUMING, DIFFICULT TO CONTROL, AND PAINSTAKING.

THE INVENTION IS INTENDED TO SUPPLY SURGEONS WITH A CONSISTENT MODULAR RELIABLE, SIMPLE SPINAL PROSTHESIS. THIS PROSTHESIS, WHOSE ASSEMBLY IS OBTAINED BY INTERLOCKING OF RINGS INSTALLED AROUND THE SPINOUS PROCESSES CONCERNED AND SUCCESSIVE, MAINTAINED INTO A CONSISTENT SYSTEM BY A RETAINMENT MEANS WHICH SURROUNDS THE RINGS. THE ASSEMBLY MAY ALSO BE MADE RIGID BY THE INTRODUCTION, FOR EXAMPLE, OF BLADES MADE OF MORE OR LESS RIGID MATERIAL. THE PURPOSE OF THE PROSTHESIS IS TO STABILIZE THE VERTEBRAE IN THE THREE PLANES, AND, WHILE PRESERVING THE ANATOMY, ONCE IT IS INSTALLED, IT ALLOWS, DEPENDING ON THE CHOICE OF THE PHYSICIAN:

- TO MAINTAIN THE INTERSPINOUS SPACE
- TO CONTROL AND LIMIT ROTATION
- TO CONTROL SPINOUS DISPLACEMENT

THUS, ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION, THE SURGICAL PROCESS CONSISTS OF A RING (101) OR SPINOUS PROCESS, PROFILED, SIZED, INCLUDING A CAVITY (110) TO LODGE A SPINOUS PROCESS (120). THE RING PRESENTS ON ONE OF ITS LATERAL FACES AN OPENING (125) IN ORDER TO LODGE IT BY ELASTIC DEFORMATION AND POSITION IT AROUND SAID SPINOUS PROCESS (120).

THE RING (101) PROFILED, PRESENTS A CONCAVE END (102) AND A CONVEX END (103), SO AS TO BE ABLE, WHEN MOUNTED ON SEVERAL SUCCESSIVE SPINOUS PROCESSES, TO GIVE MECHANICAL CONSISTENCY TO THE WHOLE BY INTERLOCKING THE RINGS ONE INTO THE OTHER (DIAGRAM 2, 3, 4). IN SPECIFIC CASES, SUCH AS FOR EXAMPLE, THE LAST RING OF AN ASSEMBLY WITH THREE LEVELS (DIAGRAM 2, 3, 4), THE ENDS OF A RING MAY BE CONCAVE/CONCAVE OR CONVEX/CONVEX (DIAGRAM 5). THE LATERAL FACES OF THE RING ARE EQUIPPED WITH BASIC FRAMES (127) IN WHICH

THEY SLIDE AND THE MAINTENANCE AND RETAINMENT SYSTEM (135) and the REINFORCEMENT AND RIGIDIFICATION SYSTEM (167) IF THE SURGEON CHOOSES TO USE IT.

THE MEANS FOR MAINTENANCE AND RETAINMENT ARE EMBODIED, FOR EXAMPLE, BY AN ARTIFICIAL LIGAMENT (135) SURROUNDING THE ASSEMBLY. THE TENSION OF THE LIGAMENT WILL ALLOW OBTAINING RIGIDITY BY COMPRESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY. THE ASSEMBLY MAY BE REINFORCED, FOR EXAMPLE, WITH BLADES (167) MORE OR LESS RESISTANT, MADE OF POLYETHYLENE, COBALT-CHROMIUM TA6V...

THE RINGS, IN ORDER TO AVOID CREATING A CONFLICT WITH THE BONE, ARE PREFERABLY MADE OF A NON-RIGID MATERIAL, IN WHICH IT IS POSSIBLE TO VARY THE RESISTANCE AND HARDNESS, EITHER BY CHARGING IT (EXAMPLE SILICONE) OR BY MAKING TOP STITCHES IN IT (EX.: ARTIFICIAL LIGAMENT).

THE SIZE OF THE RINGS, BY THEIR DIVERSITY, GIVE THE SURGEON THE POSSIBILITY TO CHOOSE THE BEST DEPENDING ON THE SIZE PARAMETERS OF THE VARIOUS VERTEBRAE OF THE PORTION OF THE SPINE TO BE STABILIZED. THUS, WE CAN HAVE RINGS THAT VARY IN HEIGHT (H), IN LENGTH (L), IN THE RESPECTIVE LENGTHS LA, LP, LC FOR THE ANTERIOR AND POSTERIOR LENGTHS OF THE CAVITY AND IN DEPTH (P).

BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF THIS INVENTION, VARIOUS OTHER MODES OF EMBODIMENT OF THE LATTER MAY BE CONSIDERED. THUS, WE MAY HAVE A DOUBLE RING OR A CONVEX RING WITH ENDS RESTING ON A PROCESS IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE ASSEMBLY (DIAGRAM 5).

CLAIMS:

- 1: INTERVERTEBRAL SURGICAL IMPLANT CHARACTERIZED IN THAT IT INCLUDES A RING EQUIPPED ON THE ONE HAND WITH A CAVITY FORMING A SPACE FOR A SPINAL PROCESS AND ON THE OTHER HAND A LATERAL OPENING ALLOWING THE INCLUSION BY ELASTIC DEFORMATION SAID SPINOUS PROCESS IN SAID CAVITY.
- 2: IMPLANT ACCORDING TO CLAIM 1, CHARACTERIZED IN THAT SAID RING PRESENTS TWO CONCAVE ENDS.
- 3: IMPLANT ACCORDING TO CLAIM 1, CHARACTERIZED IN THAT SAID RING PRESENTS A CONCAVE END AND A CONVEX END.
- 4: IMPLANT ACCORDING TO CLAIM 1, CHARACTERIZED IN THAT SAID RING PRESENTS TWO CONVEX ENDS.
- 5: IMPLANT ACCORDING TO ANY OF THE CLAIMS 1 THROUGH 4, CHARACTERIZED IN THAT SAID RING IS EQUIPPED WITH LATERAL BASIC FRAME FOR THE PASSAGE OF A MAINTENANCE MEANS.
- 6: IMPLANT ACCORDING TO CLAIM 5, CHARACTERIZED IN THAT SAID MAINTENANCE MEANS IS A FLEXIBLE LIGAMENT.
- 7: IMPLANT ACCORDING TO CLAIM 5, CHARACTERIZED IN THAT SAID MAINTENANCE MEANS IS A STRAPPING MATERIAL.
- 8: IMPLANT ACCORDING TO CLAIM 5, CHARACTERIZED IN THAT SAID MAINTENANCE MEANS IS A RIGIDIFIED LIGAMENT.
- 9: IMPLANT ACCORDING TO CLAIM 5, CHARACTERIZED IN THAT SAID MAINTENANCE MEANS IS A RIGID BLADE.
- 10: IMPLANT ACCORDING TO CLAIMS 1 THROUGH 9, CHARACTERIZED IN THAT THE RING ALLOWS, BECAUSE OF ITS BASIC FRAMES, TO MAINTAIN AND RIGIDIFY BY ANY MEANS AN ASSEMBLY INCLUDING ONE OR SEVERAL RINGS.
- 11: IMPLANT ACCORDING TO CLAIMS 1 THROUGH 10, CHARACTERIZED IN THAT THE RINGS INTERLOCK WITH ONE ANOTHER AND FORM A CONSISTENT ASSEMBLY.
- 12: IMPLANT ACCORDING TO CLAIMS 1 THROUGH 11, CHARACTERIZED IN THAT THE RINGS AND THE ASSEMBLY MAY BE REINFORCED AND RIGIDIFIED BY MODULARITY, BY ANY MEANS: BLADES, RODS, STRAPPING...

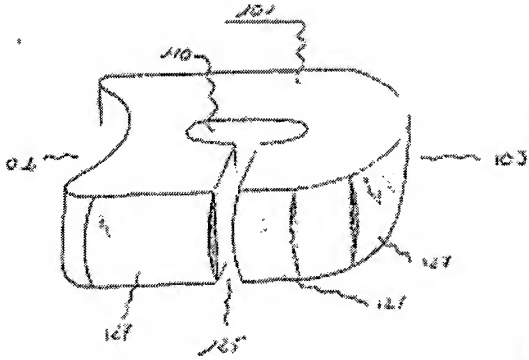
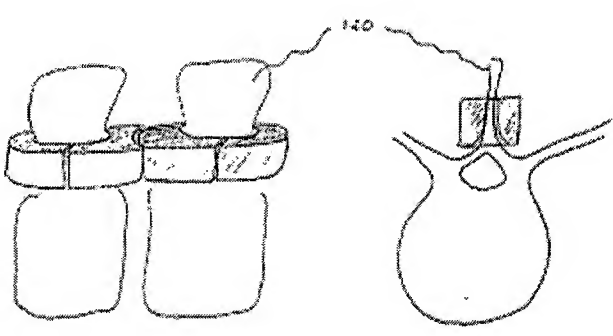
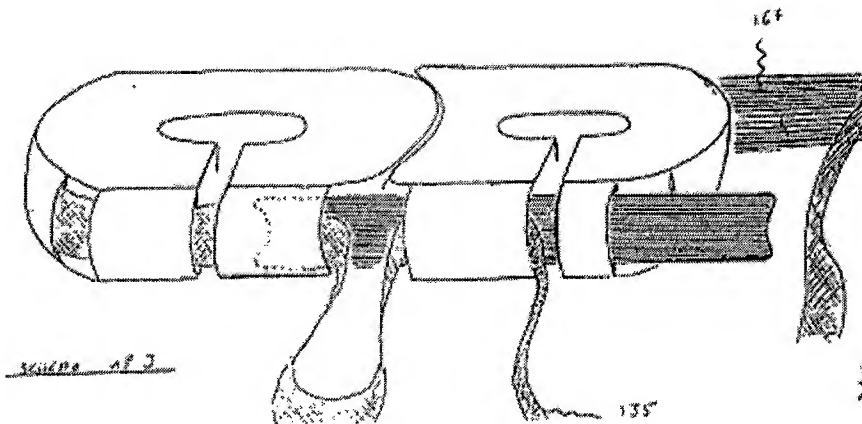
DIAGRAM No. 1DIAGRAM No. 2DIAGRAM No. 3

DIAGRAM No. 4

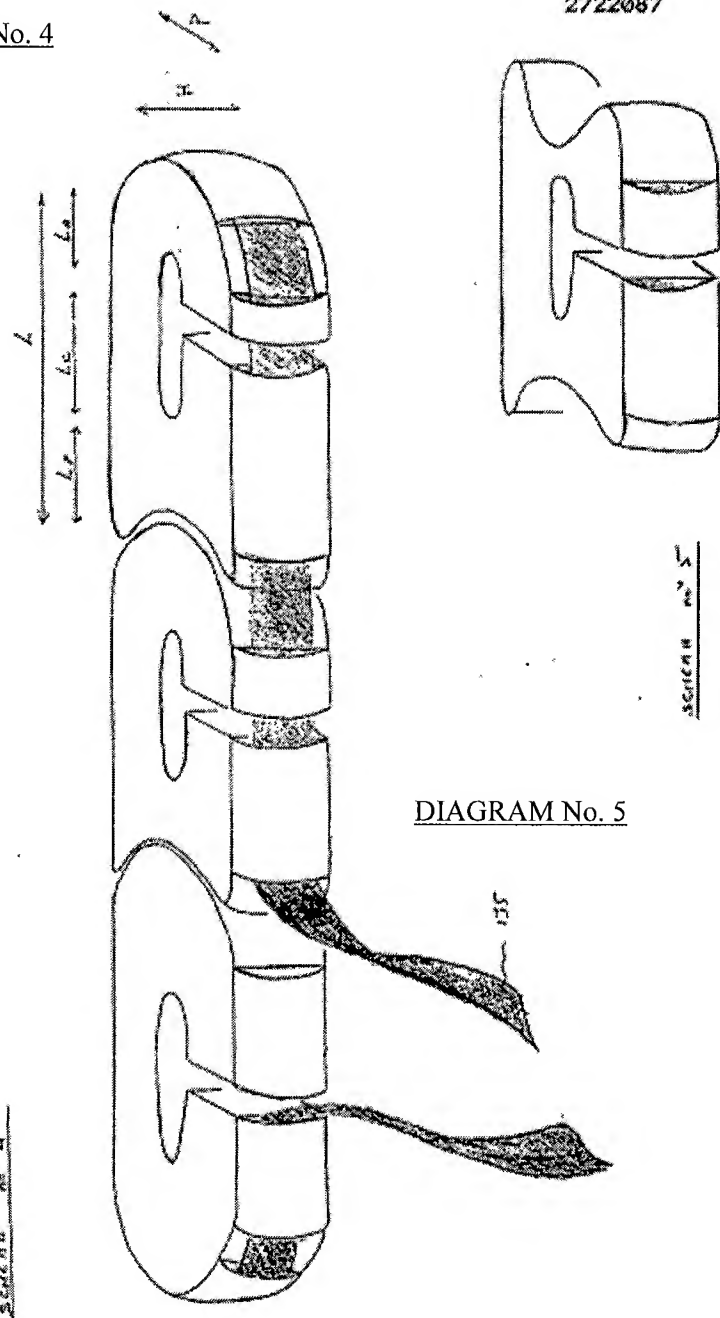
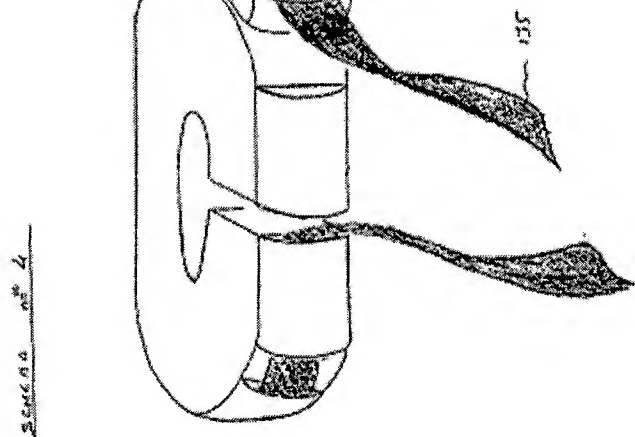


DIAGRAM No. 5



FRENCH REPUBLIC

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE
of
INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY**

**PRELIMINARY SEARCH
REPORT**

prepared on the basis of the latest claims filed before the
beginning of the search

2722087

**National
Registration No.**

**FA 505272
FR 9408452**

DOCUMENTS DEEMED PERTINENT		Claims related to the application under examination												
Category	Citation of the document with indication, if needed, of the pertinent parts													
A	EP-A-0 392 124 (BRÉARD) * claims; figures * ---	1												
A	EP-A-0 322 334 (COTE S.A.R.L.) * claims; figures * ---	1												
A	FR-A-2 681 525 (STE MEDICAL OP) * claims; figures * ----	1												
		TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. CL. 6) A61B												
Search completion date February 22, 1995		Examiner Sánchez y Sánchez, J												
<table><tr><td>CATEGORY OF DOCUMENTS CITED</td><td>T: theory or principle on which the invention is based</td></tr><tr><td>X: particularly pertinent by itself</td><td>E: patent document with prior date than the filing date and which was published only on such filing date or a subsequent Date</td></tr><tr><td>Y: particularly pertinent in combination with another document in the same category</td><td>D: cited in the application</td></tr><tr><td>A: pertinent for at least one claim or general technological background</td><td>L: cited for other reasons</td></tr><tr><td>O: non-written disclosure</td><td>-----</td></tr><tr><td>P: added document</td><td>&: member of the same family, corresponding document</td></tr></table>			CATEGORY OF DOCUMENTS CITED	T: theory or principle on which the invention is based	X: particularly pertinent by itself	E: patent document with prior date than the filing date and which was published only on such filing date or a subsequent Date	Y: particularly pertinent in combination with another document in the same category	D: cited in the application	A: pertinent for at least one claim or general technological background	L: cited for other reasons	O: non-written disclosure	-----	P: added document	&: member of the same family, corresponding document
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